

Hello GreenFest participant!

Congrats on the first step to a new adventure.

It is recommended to begin by watching <u>Intro to Geocaching with Matt Medicus</u>.

Now you are ready to begin exploring local caches selected by Matt himself. The caches used for this virtual workshop were chosen for their connection to the natural world, not necessarily because they were the easiest to find.

Use the tools at geocaching.com or in the app to help and check out some nearby caches along the way to refine your skills!

Interested in joining the prize drawing? Log your finds here: tinyurl.com/GFGF2021

Contest rules

- One entry form per geocaching username.
- All logs must be dated between April 10-30, no prior finds.
- Each "Found It!" log on any of the selected geocaches will count for one entry in the prize drawings.
- Entry form must also be submitted by April 30.
- Winners will be contacted by email or phone.

2021 GreenFest caches:

Use your free account on geocaching.com to search each selection, go out and try it! Log any finds with Geocaching.com (if you don't find it - enter 'DNF' or 'did not find').

Pre-Columbian Relic (GCQ7BY)

A traditional geocache in Columbia - view the listing and navigate your way to this "regular" sized container! This cache is located near an abandoned road segment that has been "returned to nature." You will have to park and walk a bit on the natural surface for this one.

IYOF Big Tree Tour - Howard Tulip Poplar (GC2R0WX)

A traditional geocache on the grounds of the Howard County Conservancy, this regular size container was placed in 2011 as part of the International Year of Forests! The Tulip Polar is a huge tree and worth the hike from the parking area. Alas, even though the cache is not tiny, it

can be a tough one to spot. Check out the past logs on the cache page for some hints.

Meadowbrook Park Waterways (GC38ZV5)

A multi cache in Meadowbrook Park. There are three stages including the final and you'll need to collect some info at the first two stages to determine the final coordinates. The posted coordinates are for parking and you will be walking around the park and off the paved path in a few spots! Enjoy this trek exploring the natural waterways that make up the habitat for this park's diverse wildlife.

Mica in the Middle Patuxent (GC97NCD)

A Earthcache has no physical container to find. Instead, it will take you to an area of natural or geological significance. Before you log this as a find, follow the instructions on the cache page to answer some simple questions and submit your answers to the geocache owner. Parking is near the Robinson Nature Center and you'll be hiking on the trails in that area.

Ellicott City - The Great Floods (GC68XNV)

This Earthcache in old Ellicott City has no physical container, but you will need information from the area to answer the required Earthcache questions and log your find! This geocache does not require any hiking or getting the feet dirty or wet - possibly the hardest part of this geocache will be parking!

Additional local geocaching resources:

Geocaching classes and more - www.howardcountymd.gov/hcrpcaches
Adventure programs - www.howardcountymd.gov/adventure

Questions? Contact Matt Medicus, mmedicus@howardcountymd.gov